Supplemental Reasons for Allowance

Several patents and/or applications anticipate or render obvious a printing paper with two boundary lines comprising two that allow the printing paper to collapse into an "accordion fold" arrangement which is well known in the art. Relevant applications include applicant's admitted prior art such as JP 2001-113776 and JP-U-3079837. Trikilis (US 4,538,833) also discloses a printing paper that is folded in an "accordion fold" or "zig-zig fold" arrangement. Otake et al. (US 5,403,138) also discloses a similar "accordion fold" configuration wherein the opposing faces comprising the accordion shape contain an adhesive to bind the pages together into two-sided pages (Fig. 10 and Fig. 11).

However, none of the cited prior art anticipates or renders obvious "release-assist formation lines created by forming a plurality of slits in the release paper such that each of the plurality of release-assist formation lines *contacts one of the plurality of first folding direction boundary lines*" [emphasis added] and "wherein when folding along the first folding direction boundary line, at least one tab portion of the release paper formed as a result of the formation of the release-assist formation line detaches from the adhesive layer and extends outward from the second surface of the sheet, and wherein the at least one tab portion enables removal of the release paper.

Groess et al. (US 5,332,265) disclose a printing paper comprising a release paper 78 that is adhered to a base layer 52 (Fig. 7). As can be seen in Figure 7, bending along lines 81 in the base layer 52 causes tabs to extend from off the base

layer so that "they can be easily grasped to remove them from the backing [base] layer 52" (Col. 5, 56-57). Lines 81 are parallel and distinct from fold line 80 upon which the release paper 78 is bifurcated. Because these lines 81, which may properly be referred to as "release-assist lines", are parallel and distinct from fold line 80 which may properly be referred to as a "folding direction boundary line", it is not possible for them to contact each other as is required in claim 78 of the application in question.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Examiner's Amendment

The application has been amended as follows: Claim 89, line 1, delete "89" insert – 80 --

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Srikant Viswanadham on 05/22/08.

Supplemental Note

In the examiner's original reasons for allowance, patents JP19991019 and JP20010613 were listed as applicant's admitted prior art in error. Correct citations appear above. Additionally, a PTO-892 form has also been provided to show references cited.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kyle Grabowski whose telephone number is (571)270-3518. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached on (571)272-4419. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kyle Grabowski/
Examiner, Art Unit 3725

/Derris H Banks/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3725